ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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A compression strut comprises a pre-loaded extension spring with a damper disposed therein. An operating element is disposed inside the extension spring, having an actuating tappet that is joined to an end of the extension spring. The actuating tappet is displaceable over a total range of travel that includes a damping range of the piston rod of the damper and a no-load range of the actuating tappet.